Social Development Zones

367. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether Government proposed to established the Social Development Zones in the country;

if so, the essential features of these Zones;

whether 30 Central Universities, eight IITs and seven 11 Ms, proposed to be established by Government, would be associated with the Social Development Zones; and

the names of the States in which these are proposed to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The proposal for Social Development Zones is only at an exploratory stage at present and no details have been finalized.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Target year for removing illiteracy

†368. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the year 2015 has been fixed as a target year for removing illiteracy in the country;

if so, when this decision was taken and the percentage of illiteracy in the country at that time;

the percentage likely to be at the end of March, 2007; and

the reaction of Government with regard to success of removal of illiteracy in the country upto the target year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

Does not arise.

The literacy data in the country is collected through the decennial census operations. According to the the last census conducted in 2001, the literacy rate was 64.84%. The next census is due in 2011.

Does not arise. However, the success of achieving the target for removal of illiteracy would depend upon the resources allocated for the purpose.

Checking the cheating in examinations

369. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that cheating in examination has become a far more developed

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.